

STATS & FACTS NEWSPAGE

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

September 22, 2006

A Monthly Publication by the Office of the Secretary
Scott Angelle, DNR Secretary



Message from the Secretary

About Voting

What leadership and influence the Roosevelt's have shown as part of our great American history --- here are two notable quotes:

"Nothing worth gaining is ever gained without effort. The people who say that they have not time to attend to politics are simply saying that they are unfit to live in a free community." — **Theodore Roosevelt**

"When you cease to make a contribution, you begin to die." — **Eleanor Roosevelt**

Now, let me encourage all of you to consider the meaning of these words and take that motivation to the voting booths with you on September 30th. I have had the opportunity this past week to speak with several newspapers statewide about the amendments relative to coastal restoration and protection in Louisiana, encouraging them that a "yes" vote will serve the greater good. The first four proposed amendments make changes in the way we approach, fund, and protect our coastal resources. The Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, Inc. (PAR) offers an excellent website that has a 'guide to' the 13 constitutional amendments on the voting ballot. It can be found at www.la-par.org.

New developments

This month, Chevron provided some extremely welcome news. The company announced it had discovered a deepwater field in the Gulf, just about 150 miles off the Louisiana coast that has the potential for up to 15 billion barrels of oil, with this energy production to begin as soon as 2008.

New technology has been opening the door to new frontiers for the oil and gas industry and these are exciting times. The announcement, I believe, also has good timing. As Congress continues to debate the merits of offshore revenue sharing with coastal states, this discovery should be a reminder that Louisiana is the nation's primary source for energy production and delivery.

Getting the word out

I also want to mention that I was asked to write an article for the World Energy news publication in its latest edition in September. The editors have a special section in the magazine dealing specifically with issues related to our state. You can see it online at www.worldenergysource.com or in the PDF format available on our DNR homepage. It is titled, **Louisiana: The Energy Coast in Progress**.

Outdoor Event

On Saturday, September 23rd, a great family event will be held in Baton Rouge! National Hunting and Fishing Day is from 9 am to 3 pm at the Waddill Education Center, North Flannery Road. A few of our staff joins the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for this fun community activity.

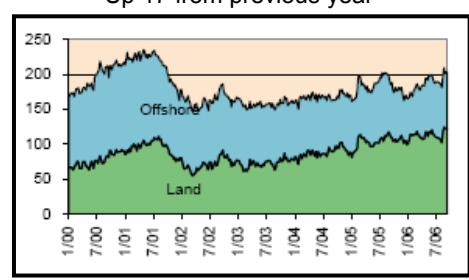
NUMBERS

Conservation

1,438 Number of oil and gas drilling permits issued so far this year. According to Commissioner Jim Welsh, this data indicates a **7.8** percent increase in drilling activity over the same period last year (August 2005).

Louisiana Rigs

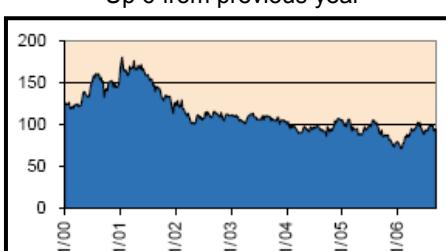
Count **202** as of 09/15/2006
Down 1 previous week
Up 17 from previous year



Courtesy of Baker Hughes

Total US Offshore Rigs

Count **95** as of 09/15/2006
Unchanged from previous week
Up 6 from previous year



Mineral Resources

5,026 Number of acres of state property awarded in September 2006 at the Mineral Lease Sale.

\$2,004,961 Revenue to the state from the same lease sale.

Coastal



Marsh Project gets "A" in first semester. Coastal Resources Scientist, Darin Lee is shown here with WWL-TV New Orleans news reporter Mike Hoss as he shows him the features of the Timbalier Island Dune Marsh Restoration Project earlier this month. Darin works out of the Thibodaux Field Office and provided the reporter a field trip to show the progress made post Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Despite the island sustaining peak waves as high as 12 feet last fall, sediment placement, vegetative plantings and sand-fencing is intact and restoration will be monitored over the 20-year life of the project. Darin notes that this CWPPRA project is located south of Terrebonne Bay, construction work began in 2004 and the latest work has included nutria eradication, eight species of native vegetation planted, and 11,648.5 linear feet of a sand fence installed in 2006. EPA is the co-sponsor. DNR Coastal staffers Brad Miller and Beau Tate, EPA project manager Patty Taylor and WWL cameraman Larry Schirling also participate in the trip.

Energy

4th of October 2006: Gov. Blanco proclaims Wednesday, 10/4/06, Energy Star Change a Light, Change the World Day in our state. According to DNR Energy Programs Manager Paula Ridgeway, the following statistics are possible.

139 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented if every household in Louisiana were to change just **ONE** light bulb to an energy-efficient type bulb. In turn, there would be enough energy saved in this simple act that would light all the households in Baton Rouge for **170** days! Energy Star qualified lights and fixtures use two-thirds less energy than standard incandescent bulbs.



Take the Pledge online to change a light in your home and join others from all 50 states in this Governor's Campaign sponsored by the U.S. DOE, HUD, and EPA.

www.energystar.gov/changealight

Expect to receive a GE coupon for \$avings on their bulbs when you take the pledge.

Human Resources

Over 250 Number of employees at DNR completing the online FEMA training courses related to Emergency Management practices. Additionally, **6** number of employees who are now trained and ready to work as elections officers in the state: They are Dianne Jones-OCRM, Peggy Rooney-OCRM, Ben Kilman-OMR, Isaac Jackson-OS, Elaine Williams-OMR, and James Devitt-OS.

Restored, Rebuilt, Reclaimed

68,354 Number of seats in the **New Orleans Superdome** of which **58,000** were renovated and **10,000** replaced as part of the renovations and improvements to the facility after the hurricane. The Superdome was first opened on August 3, 1975. It holds a world record for attendance for an indoor concert, **87,500** people for a Rolling Stones concert in 1981. Besides replacing the roof, artificial turf, carpeting and seats, several other new items have been added: a video board-scoreboard-message board system, 38 concession stands and 3 kitchens remodeled. There are **8,000** Club Level sideline seats with **4,000** Box Suite seats upgraded, and **137** remodeled suites.